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LETTER DATED 23 SEPTEMBER 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CYPRUS TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to enclose herewith a statement on the recent Palestinian-Israeli agreement made by the President of the Republic of Cyprus, H.E. Mr. Glafcos Clerides, on 14 September 1993.

I should be grateful if you would provide for the distribution of this letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alecos SHAMBOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Republic
of Cyprus to the United Nations

Annex

Statement by the President of the Republic of Cyprus,
H.E. Mr. Glafcos Clerides

The reaching of a peace accord between the Palestine Liberation Organization and Israel, after a long struggle which claimed the lives of thousands of people and caused human suffering and economic destruction, is a historic event which proves that whenever there is goodwill on the part of the conflicting sides, solutions can be found even to issues for which resort to force seemed to be the only solution.

We believe the agreement is a landmark in the process of achieving an overall peace to the Middle East problem and will put an end to the long confrontation between Israel and the Arabs.

We believe that there will be difficulties, but we are certain they will be faced in the same spirit in which the historic agreement has been achieved.

I express the profound satisfaction of the Cypriot people, the Government and my own, for this breakthrough and I offer the warmest congratulations to all those who had the vision, and with great courage, determination and awareness of historic responsibility made the peace agreement possible. At this moment, one cannot but bring to mind the late President of Egypt, Anwar Sadat, and Israel's late Prime Minister, Menahem Begin, who, with the assistance of former President Jimmy Carter, opened the road to peace.